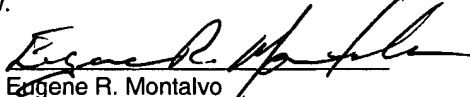


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.

  
Eugene R. Montalvo  
Date: October 18, 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of	)	
	)	
Robert Irving McNeil, III et al.	)	
	)	
Serial No. 10/644,390	)	Group Art Unit: 2863
	)	
Filed August 20, 2003	)	Examiner: Bryan Bui
	)	
METHOD FOR MEASURING FLUID CHEMISTRY	)	October 18, 2004
IN DRILLING AND PRODUCTION OPERATIONS	)	
<hr/>		
Commissioner for Patents		
P.O. Box 1450		
Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450		

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 16 SEPTEMBER 2004**

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicants in the above-captioned application hereby responds to the Office Action mailed 16 September 2004. At the time the Office Action issued, claims 1 – 47 were pending.